## Haiti **Partners**

# **INSPIRED BY GRATITUDE**

5th Birthday Report

# WE'RE INSPIRED BY YOU

A Note from Kent and John, co-directors

On Haiti Partners' 5th anniversary, we're inspired by your trust, your compassion, and your desire to help other people reach their God-given potential. And inspired by the real difference you've made in people's lives. wo months after we started Haiti Partners, everything collapsed. We watched in horror and heartbreak. A cloud of dust rose over Portau-Prince after it was shaken by a devastating earthquake.

John and I had already been working in Haiti for a long time. John was in Haiti at the time; I was in the U.S. My phone rang at about 4:55 p.m. as I was sitting for an early dinner with my wife and young children. I missed the call, but figured I'd call back to talk in an hour.

Because the phone system went down within minutes after John had called to say there had been an earthquake, but they were okay, it would be days before we could talk—agonizing days that unfolded, the world watching, as those of us at a distance saw more clearly how traumatic the impact was. John had been in his house and scrambled to get his two children out as the house swayed. Their house didn't collapse. But so many buildings did, and so many people didn't get out.

> When you care about justice, your heart will be broken regularly. Life is hard, and life in Haiti, well, it's generally way harder.

But the amazing part is that when you take part in God's story of justice, your heart also gets filled with inspiration and gratitude.

We were inspired by how you responded so generously to Haitians in crisis after the earthquake. And then we've been inspired how for the past five years

Photos: **Cover**; Sherley Lucet at the Children's Academy. **Left**; Micah Scholar Frodeline St. Germaine during a music practice. **Facing page left**; Co-director Kent Annan with students at a partner school in Darbonne. **Facing page right**; Co-director John Engle with Children's Academy students. **Photo credits**; Joel Geertsma for cover and he and Erik Badger for most photos throughout.



you've partnered with us to work for deep, lasting change.

On this, our 5th birthday, we're humbled and inspired by gratitude for how your generosity has made possible the transformation you'll read about in the pages that follow here.

#### We're grateful:

- Grateful to each of you who have made the work possible by giving, praying, encouraging, sharing insights, and volunteering.
- Grateful to people in Haiti we've worked with whose dedication, persistence, hope, wisdom, and commitment remain strong in the face of hard circumstances.
- Grateful to God for the invitation of grace to follow Jesus in loving our neighbors.

#### We're inspired:

- Inspired by your trust, your compassion, and your desire to help other people reach their God-given potential. And inspired by the real difference you've made in people's lives.
- Inspired by the Haitian colleagues, schools, churches, leaders, and communities who we get to partner with and learn from in this work. We hope their stories are an inspiring part of your life too.
- Inspired by God's love for us in Jesus, which gives us the grace to keep serving despite our weaknesses.

We are also inspired by the students we work with children in our schools or the young adults who as Micah Scholars are training at seminary to serve as pastors and community leaders. Put simply, without your generous support, many of these students would not have the opportunity to continue their education.

We provide scholarship opportunities for elementary students, seminary students, and business people to

receive the training they need to make a difference in their communities and country. We're excited about how this will continue to help more people in Haiti, and give more people like you ways to get involved.

From the beginning, we've hoped that Haiti Partners serves as a bridge carrying gratitude and inspiration in both directions. We know many of you are grateful to support friends in Haiti, because you receive as you give. We feel the same way. At the same time, we've been in countless meetings in Haiti where people are **praying for you** saying, "God, we're so grateful for the people who have never met us, yet are partnering with us in our need. God, please bless them and their families."

We can encourage each other toward the kind of hard work, generosity, and commitment that leads to change.

Which leads us to pause to look back at five years of Haiti Partners' work—so we can say thank you and report on the difference you've made. Five years in, the work has only just begun. Challenges are ahead, but so are breakthroughs. Five hundred years of colonization, genocide, slavery, and oppression can't be undone overnight. But many people are working for change. And what we've accomplished in these last 5 years encourages us to keep working for the day when Haiti will inspire the world as we join together in God's story of justice.

We invite you into these pages with humble gratitude. We hope you're inspired about what we can continue to do together to help Haitians change Haiti through education.

In Christ's hope,

Kent

Kent Annan and John Engle, co-directors





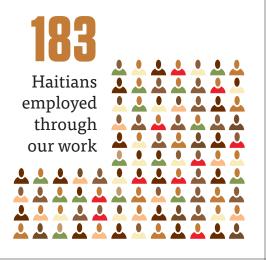


earthquake, our first temporary school went up





Hours volunteered in our Florida office





10,886

parents

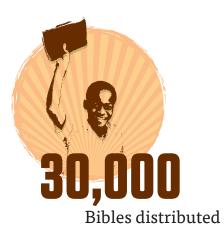
Volunteer hours by

Children's Academy

JAM .

**143** Teachers received regular training





## Dozens

of children in domestic servitude (restavek) returned to their homes



### Haiti **Partners**

## **Quality Schools Program**

here is a house built out of tin panels. It sits on a hilltop. Dirt floors, a wooden door, a bed, a table, all wearing signs of long use. This place holds a story of what it was before the earthquake, and then what emerged after. It's a place where a family, like countless others five years ago, had to start over.

Marie-Ange was holding her then six-month-old son, Marvens, when she felt the ground shake.

"My father said we should stay in the house, but something told me to run outside, which we did. We sat on the hillside here. Marvens looked at me and cried. I wiped the dust from his eyes."

Their home collapsed, but they survived. And thanks to a woman who is rarely at rest, they have come out of the dust and wreckage of that day with hope, faith, and a drive to make their lives—and the lives of those they love—better.

Marie-Ange works tirelessly for what she cares about. She currently serves as vice-president of the parents committee of the Children's Academy, was the community coordinator for a program to test a new stove cooking method, and in the past school year volunteered 275 hours at the school.

Like his mother, Marvens is rarely at rest. He moves from one activity to the next with little rest in between, and in the rare moments when there is nothing to do, Marvens can be found somersaulting in the yard or making a friend laugh with silly faces. Marvens throws himself into everything with joy.

"My dream is to see a bright future for Marvens and the other kids at the school. I want to see him evolve, learn to speak English, learn to use computers, lots of things.

"I'm always asking him what he wants to be when he grows up. Sometimes he says a doctor, or an engineer... When he gets to that age he'll be prepared to choose what he wants to be."

The tin house on a hill testifies to collapse in an earthquake, but that is just one part of the story. From there, a woman and her family came out of the rubble and have been working for a better life, and helping to make the Children's Academy a great place for her son and the whole community.

Each of our partner schools and the Children's Academy is full of children and parents like this. The teachers and administrators are dedicated and keep improving. The children are studying hard and being respected.

We're all inspired by these parents like Marie-Ange. And we believe that Marvens is one of many children deserving of a scholarship to be prepared—whether as a doctor, an engineer, or something else to continue growing into a young man with faith and a future.



U Quality Schools program, which is serving more than 1,100 children, began with partner schools. Fifteen years of on-the-ground experience made it clear that the overall education quality in Haiti was terrible. It's hard to be hopeful about a country's future when its children are not being educated. Students would sit on crowded benches in poorly lit, overcrowded classrooms, forced by untrained teachers to memorize and recite passages in French, and would face corporal punishment and humiliation for failing. Rather than teaching students to become problem solvers and to serve their communities, schools were teaching students thoughtless passivity and an unquestioned obedience to authority.

The partner schools work for school reform by supporting typical Haitian schools to improve their facilities, administration, and quality of education. They also seek to tackle chronically insufficient funding by starting social businesses. We added three partner schools before the earthquake and three more just after. The earthquake completely leveled four partner schools and damaged the others, but great progress was made in the following two years. A training program was implemented; three schools were completely rebuilt and the others were up and running in temporary or repaired facilities; and we made progress on the creation of social businesses.

As we worked with these six partner schools, we also realized it would be important to experiment with and model new approaches to education. So in 2011 we set out to build our own school, the Children's Academy and Learning Center, where partner school staff could come for training and experience quality education in action. As of September 2014, it is home to 120 preschoolers. Teachers are caring and well trained; classrooms are colorful, joyful places; and students learn to actively engage in creative, educational ways. Parents are involved in their children's education, volunteering four hours each week at the school. On the campus, 120 patients are seen weekly at a clinic run in partnership with Haiti Clinic. The Children's Academy will add another class each year, until it is a complete preK-12 facility.

Our strategic objective for the Schools program is to develop schools that help children realize their potential while driving community development and lifelong learning. We are inspired by the progress. The students of today can become the community leaders of tomorrow.

#### Photos: **Above left**; Marie-Ange, Matthieu (husband), Marvens, and Woodjerry in front of their home. **Above right**; Francesse Antoine, a second year preschool teacher at the Children's Academy. **Right**; Herdes Majuste at the Children's Academy. **Below**; Cabois school after the earthquake and then rebuilt.

Teachers trained



2000+ Students educated

### Haiti **Partners**

## **Holistic Churches Program**

hen we first met Erwin, she was a shy young woman, so quiet when she spoke that it was hard to hear her. Many young leaders in the church, particularly women, aren't encouraged to speak boldly and confidently. But Erwin's excellent academics, thoughtful ideas, and joyful spirit convinced us that with the support of the Micah Scholars program, she would grow and find her voice. Now, four years later, she has grown into a deeply respected leader at her seminary and says, "In this program they teach us... how to fight the child exploitation of the restavek system, how to spread justice wherever we go."

Last year, Erwin was leading a Bible study at her church using the curriculum we created on children's rights. As the time drew to a close, an older grandmother in the group stood and began to weep. As her words and tears streamed out, she confessed how she felt convicted over her complicity in the abuse of children because she had remained silent while her grown daughter continued to exploit a young woman whose father had died and mother was sick.

Like over 200,000 other restaveks in Haiti, this young woman had come into their home on the promise of education and care, but was instead forced into servitude and abuse. Erwin and the other women comforted the grandmother, praying for her and counseling her into action. Within the next couple months, she was able to persuade her daughter to return the exploited young woman to her home. Together, they have supported the young woman's return to school and a better life.

Through scholarships for Micah Scholars like Erwin, through powerful teaching and mobilization programs,

and through churches addressing spiritual and social needs, we're seeing the impact of this work with churches ripple across the country in transformative ways.

"I hope," says Erwin, "that in the years ahead I will become a leader who makes a big difference—who loves people, and shares love everywhere I go."



Books on Christian theology and practice created in Haitian Creole and **25,000** distributed. hough the Churches program started just five years ago, the seeds were planted more than 10 years ago with a few simple Bible studies in Haitian communities, sitting in circles to read God's Word. As we moved forward, we found we were developing practices and materials that were essential for churches in Haiti: studying Scripture, practicing spiritual disciplines, modeling servant leadership, and including the voices of the marginalized. From there, we began to search for ways we could expand that to mobilize churches to both deepen in faith and engage for justice.

In the past 5 years, we've developed new resources to address the plight of restavek children and trained thousands of pastors and leaders to take action on children's rights. In order to make a difference for deeper and more lasting change, we added the Micah Scholars initiative. In this initiative we partner with three Haitian seminaries to train young leaders as they apprentice with us.

This September, we added 8 new Micah Scholars and now have a total of 44 (17 of whom are women). Our first class will graduate in May. Our Haitian colleagues began piloting new resources on women's rights. More than 500 pastors and leaders attended training workshops on children's rights. We've started working on a new, long-term project to mobilize 14 churches on behalf of restaveks. We're also developing cutting-edge survey and technical tools to better evaluate and manage our work.

We are inspired by the hard work and growth of our Micah Scholars like Erwin. They're so grateful to you for this opportunity. Without your help, they would not have this chance to develop their potential in service of Christ, the church, and their communities. Scholarships for these future leaders are bearing great fruit now—and will continue to for decades to come. • Photos: Left; Erwin Titus will be in the first graduating class of Micah Scholars in May 2015, when they receive their bachelors degrees. This page, top; Micah Scholars (from L-R) Bibinette Desir, Resilia Jean, and Marceline Nortreus hold new copies of "Women in the Bible: Prophets, Mothers, Judges, Preachers" by Old Testament professor Sara Koenig. This book and one on children's rights are used in trainings with churches around the country. Middle; Micah Scholar Lefabson Sully leads lectio divina at By Faith Evangelical Baptist Church in Port-au-Prince. Bottom; Members of a Nazarene church in the Belair section of Port-au-Prince participate in a lectio divina Bible study led by Micah Scholars Millienne Angervil (middle, center bench) and Bibinette Desir (center bench, left).





Photos: This page; Vilianne Blanc and Mirlande Croisile work on the bakery. training center, and guesthouse, with earthquake-resistant building oversight by our partner Extollo International (photo by Brian Bassard). Far right; Marie Veronila Antoine talks with John Engle at our project with Habitat for Humanity in Santo. Lower right; Shane Claiborne, well-known author and activist, speaking with our Micah Scholars as Valéry Vital-Herne translates.



### Entrepreneurship Program

aving a good job is key for reaching one's potential and providing for one's family. But finding a job is hard in Haiti. Also, having families who can pay tuition is essential for most schools in Haiti to have the resources to operate, but it's hard for families to make those payments.

Making it possible for local schools to support themselves financially is vital to long-term change. But in Haiti, many communities have had an unhealthy dependence on outside donors for decades. Through scholarships we need to keep supporting education, but at the same time find ways to help communities tackle their own problems.

Early on, we decided to help our partner schools find ways to support themselves. We were introduced to Yunus Social Business - Haiti, an organization founded by the man who started the microcredit movement, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus. They were looking for good organizations to help create medium-sized social businesses.

We received \$1.1 million in loans and grants for startup capital to create three social businesses—two poultry farms and a bakery—whose profit will support our schools. Over the last several years, we created local cooperative boards, wrote business plans, held trainings, and gathered input from community meetings, all of which was vital to make these businesses successful.

The two new •• poultry farms will support our partner schools

in Darbonne and on La Gonave. Together, they have the capacity to raise and sell 9,600 chickens every six weeks. The new bakery at the Children's Academy will produce about 6,000 servings of bread each day and grow from there. (Come and visit, and a piece of bread is on us!)

Construction

projects: 4 schools, 2 poultry farms, and

1 bakery built; and

4 schools partially

built or repaired.

We're working to create successful social businesses and cultivate entrepreneurship and business skills. We'll continue to focus on the success of our current social businesses, as well as creating new ones like a construction firm and training center on the Children's Academy campus. We will also create entrepreneurship training for Haitian students to learn the necessary skills to find or create employment.

### Collaborative Leadership Program

abitat for Humanity built more than 300 homes after the earthquake. They're great at building homes, with locals and volunteers, including President Jimmy Carter who came twice. They didn't, however, have experience doing community development in Haiti. So Haiti Partners worked to help women like Marie Veronila Antoine (pictured right), who had lost her home in the earthquake and then received one of these Habitat homes, decide how they would organize their new community. She is now treasurer of the homeowners association that we helped them create.

This program started five years ago when we brought together 40 community leaders over three years to help them become even more effective. They learned to create personal plans with measurable goals; to use participatory leadership methods; to integrate computers into their work; to network to find the resources to make their dreams a reality; and to create social businesses.

Our purpose in this program is to develop leaders who inspire groups, communities, and institutions to thrive. We do this through coaching and training in methods like Open Space Technology, a democratic approach to convening meetings. We're also, of course, committed to putting into practice what we're encouraging others to do. For the past five years, Haiti Partners has made the WorldBlu list of most democratic workplaces. Every year our American and Haitian staff members anonymously analyze our leadership practices to determine if we're



respecting their 10 principles of a democratic work place. (Last year our co-director John Engle received a lifetime achievement award from WorldBlu!)

Our training program in Haiti convenes leaders weekly over six months to learn to lead inclusively and democratically, while tackling concrete issues. In late 2010, we used this approach for a USAID-funded project that reached over 1,000 teachers, leaders, and community organizers. In 2012, we used this approach in another USAID project to improve collaboration among 100 community leaders and elected officials in an area near a major new industrial park in northern Haiti.

We will continue to partner with NGOs and local organizations to develop their leaders and improve their capacity for collaboration and inclusive leadership. "Helping Haitians change Haiti through education" includes helping good leaders get better, and we see this happening.

### Partners Program

e want Haiti Partners' work to connect with your life in North America—at home, at church, at work. We want you to be inspired as you help others to change their lives. We want to be part of your life of faith in God and hope for the world. We want to give you opportunities to learn, give, and share life with people in another country. We want you to be able to invite people around you into lives of deeper faith and justice.

In the past five years more than 500 people from the U.S. and Canada have come to visit our work in Haiti. We plan these visits so people can have respectful exchanges



and visitors can contribute to our long-term work. We've spoken to more than 15,000 people in churches, universities, and conferences about Haiti, Jesus, and justice. We've had excellent teachers come to work with our schools program and world-class speakers come to work with our Micah Scholars. Our co-director Kent Annan published two books and all the proceeds went to our work.

Our Haiti Partners vision is, "We believe Haiti can and will inspire the world, as we join together in God's story of justice." This program is focused on doing both parts of that: we hope to inspire you through what is happening in Haiti, and we hope to encourage you as you're part of God's story of justice.

We're inspired by gratitude as we focus on serving people in Haiti but also want to serve you. We think this is how giving works: it's not just a one-way street.

At the start of his ministry, Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

This is the good news that we've been so grateful to be able to live into with you for the past five years, and that we want to keep living into together in North America and in Haiti.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## **To Our Supporters**



Haiti

Partners



Photos: **Top**; Adam reading in Haiti. **Center**; Linda (middle) with Haiti Partners staff. **Bottom**; John (left) with Prophet Antoine.



Haiti Partners is committed to the highest standards of accountability. We undergo an outside, independent audit each year. The 2013-14 numbers reported here are based on unaudited cash-basis financials, because the current audit wasn't complete by the time this went to press. For audited financials, contact our office or visit haitipartners.org

#### Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support of Haiti Partners. We are deeply grateful for your generous giving and sacrifice as we strive together to help Haitians change Haiti through education.

We recognize the seriousness of your donation to Haiti Partners. You've earned it through hard work and entrusted us with your gift to carry out this mission in Haiti. You deserve to know how and where your funds are spent.

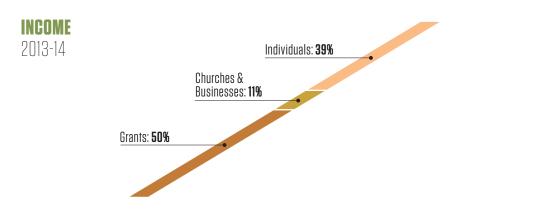
Below is our latest financial report. If you have any questions or ideas, please don't hesitate to contact us. Haiti Partners has a strong board of directors and staff committed to overseeing our work with the highest levels of effectiveness, accountability, and action. As such, we participate in a rigorous annual audit and work hard to evaluate our program effectiveness in Haiti on an ongoing basis.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you as you serve others.

With much gratitude,

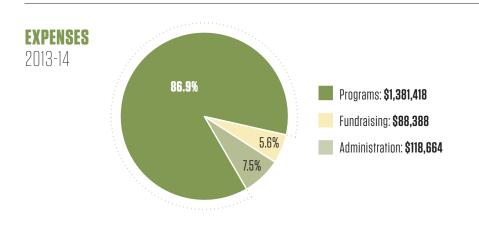
Adam Bolinger Board President and Treasurer Linda Aiken Board Secretary John Simonton Finance Committee

OVERVIEW<br/>2013-14Total Revenue: \$1,667,586Total Expenses: \$1,588,470

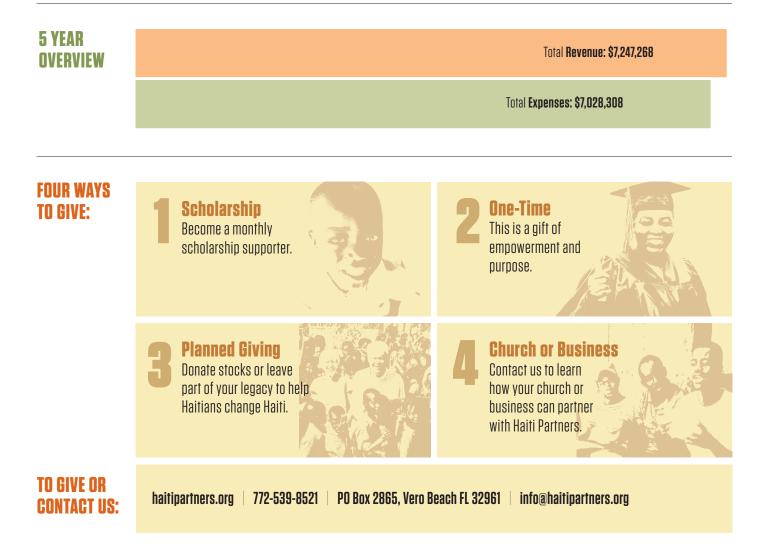








Photos: **Above left**; Your support is helping Micah Scholars like Nadege Louis develop into leaders who seek faithful justice in their communities. **Above right**; Briggs & Stratton gave 240 generators through Haiti Partners after the earthquake. **Lower**: Our Wozo Choir sings beautifully; they and Children's Academy students and parents have planted 10,000 trees to serve the community.



# OUR MISSION

Helping Haitians change Haiti through education.

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## OUR VISION

We believe Haiti can and will inspire the world as we join together in God's story of justice.

# OUR VALUES

RESPECT Respect the dignity, voice, and potential of each person. COLLABORATION Collaborate for more effective, productive, and joyful partnerships. ACCOUNTABILITY Be responsible to everyone connected with this work. FAITH Follow Jesus in pursuit of justice and compassion. LEARNING Learn, improve, and share in humility and gratitude.



# OUR NEW LOGO

As part of our 5th birthday, this year we went through an extensive strategic planning process with our North American and Haitian boards and staff. The conversations and documents were translated into Creole and English. The mission, vision, and values on the adjacent page were affirmed and celebrated by all. In addition, we designed a new logo representative of these core commitments.

You were regularly on our mind throughout this process. We were inspired by gratitude for you as we articulated what we believe and where we're going. We hope you're inspired by this too!

#### THE COLOR: -

Red is one of the colors of the Haitian flag. We're committed to Haiti, a country whose past and present has faced so much suffering, yet is also a place of so much beauty and strength. We picked a beautiful shade of red, with subtle texture variations to honor the country's complexity. Matched with a sharp, clear font, it represents how we see that "Haiti can and will inspire the world." People in Haiti inspire us every day.

Photos: **Facing page, large**; Edouardo Jean, a kindergarten student on his way home from school. **Far left**; Laurie Poll, principal of Zeeland Elementary in Zeeland, Michigan and leading member of the Calvary Church teacher group, works with partner school teachers. **Upper right**; Students at Cité Soleil Community School pray with emotion. **Below**; Our new Children's Academy is a joyful place to learn and play.

### Haiti **Partners**

### THE FONT:

The font is distinctive and professional, but not stuffy. It has strong, artistic edges. We've learned to be humble in this work, but we're confident in the processes we're committed to, the values that guide us, and the people we're privileged to work with in North America and Haiti. We take seriously your trust as we ensure your generosity makes a difference for people and helps lasting change. The font also indicates an invitation to be respectful partners.



#### THE CIRCLE:

We spend a lot of time in Haiti in circles. The children in our schools learn to share, respect, and be respected. The young church leaders receiving seminary scholarships learn servant leadership. The voices of the communities we work with guide how we move forward together. We spend time with our partners in North America as you shape our work. To us, the circle represents the respect, collaboration, accountability, learning, and partnership we're committed to.

#### THE BRUSHSTROKE EDGE:

We're each created in God's image, but the outside edge of the circle shows we're still very much a dynamic work of people in progress. We're quided by the grace of God's perfect love incarnate in Jesus, but also transparent about our imperfections. We ensure good practices of accountability. We move forward with honest faith. We need each other as partners. By carrying forward an element of our previous logo, we're grateful for and building on our history. We're not presenting a cookie-cutter image, but instead are committed to a deeper, beautiful participation in God's story of justice. We're striving to serve you and our neighbors in Haiti as we do meaningful work together.





a Micah Scholar, church leader, community activist, world changer, **on Scholarship.** 

### **Rebecca** is

a kindergartener, daughter, sister, learner, bright, the future, **on Scholarship.** 

On our 5th birthday, Brunel, Rebecca, and all of us thank you for giving opportunities to students like them. Education is key to changing Haiti's future. Scholarships are one of the best ways to help. You can learn more on our new website: haitipartners.org

\$30	\$60	\$100
per month	per month	per month
Can help a child attend elementary school.	Can train two teachers for a year.	Can provide an apprenticeship for a Micah Scholar.



Haiti Partners' mission is to help Haitians change Haiti through education. We believe Haiti can and will inspire the world, as we join together in God's story of justice.

For details about our staff in the U.S. and Haiti, our board, our audited financial statements, strategy, and more, please visit HaitiPartners.org/who-we-are/

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